


Oswego and Yorkville to share facilities manager

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Linda Girardi

Oswego and Yorkville will share a facilities manager in an effort to save money.

The two communities have each approved intergovernmental agreements that set the terms of hiring and sharing the cost of a full-time facilities manager to oversee the condition of their municipal buildings.

Oswego Assistant Village Administrator Christina Burns said based on success in having specialized knowledge from a joint purchasing manager, Oswego has decided to expand on its partnership with Yorkville and split the cost of a facilities manager.

She said both municipalities have a variety of projects for someone filling the post to work on immediately.

"This is especially critical for us with a new police facility coming on board," Burns told Oswego trustees.

Yorkville City Administrator Bart Olson in a report to the city's aldermen said the idea is that both communities could benefit from the expertise of an individual in the facility management field, by consolidating planned maintenance items and putting schedules into place for buildings in Oswego and Yorkville.

"Neither community could justify a full-time employee," he said.

Olson said the facilities manager will be responsible for the condition of city buildings on a day-to-day basis but also for facility improvements.

The joint purchasing manager was one of the recommendations in a shared services study completed by the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, a regional planning agency.

The Lower Fox River Partnership Initiative completed in 2015 explored ways to help coordinate long-term cooperation between Oswego, Yorkville and Montgomery.

Burns has been leading the effort to coordinate shared services for the three communities. She said originally the facilities manager position was to be shared between the three towns. However, Montgomery was unable to join in the venture.

According to the documents, the facilities manager will be employed by the village of Oswego and covered by the village's personnel policies, benefits and insurance. Yorkville will have an equal vote on the selection of the candidate. The work projects will be managed by the administrators of both communities. The position has a salary range from \$65,300 to \$93,300. The towns expect to fill the position in early spring.

Linda Girardi is a freelance reporter for The Beacon-News.